



## OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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### Grant Guidance Released for Funding Telephone Emergency Notification System Program

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** – The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security (OHS) is announcing the release of application guidance for the Telephone Emergency Notification System (TENS) Program. On December 28, 2007 Governor Schwarzenegger announced he was making available \$2 million from the State's share of federal homeland security funds for the purchase of emergency telephone notification systems.

The TENS program will provide \$2 million in FY07 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funds for telephone emergency notification systems for those California counties currently without this capability. The eligible counties are: Colusa, Humboldt, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Mendocino, Plumas, San Benito, San Joaquin, Siskiyou, Tehema, Trinity, and Tulare. Any county without a telephone emergency notification system is eligible to apply.

Telephone Emergency Notification Systems are a proven technology to call, text and email persons in a given geographical area with life saving emergency information. They have been designed for and used successfully in many disasters such as fires, floods, and earthquakes, as well as human caused emergencies. TENS can be used across the state, within mountain ranges or to just a stadium or school’s area.

“This program will expand California's emergency notification system statewide,” stated Matthew Bettenhausen, Director of the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security. “As we learned during the wildfires last year, it is important to use every tool at our disposal to ensure the safety of all Californians.”

The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services encourages local public safety agencies to explore the use of these notification systems to increase their effectiveness during an emergency. “Local agencies are on the front line of providing immediate public safety messages and using the latest technology to expedite the dissemination of information

can saves lives,” said Henry Renteria, Director of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services.

Applications must be received at OHS by **April 1, 2008**. The OHS Grants Management Division will review and approve projects submitted which meet the program criteria and can be accommodated within the federal performance period.

For more information go to our website at [www.homeland.ca.gov](http://www.homeland.ca.gov)

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